

Lagrange, NY – Today, U.S. Rep. John Hall (D-NY19) surprised Arlington High School's Club ACTION students with a Dyson Foundation grant of \$108,000 that he worked to obtain after meeting with the students earlier this year and hearing about their efforts to make the school more energy-efficient. The grant money is going to the Arlington Education Foundation to install solar panels on the roof of a new wing being built at Arlington High School. The Arlington High School's Club ACTION, the school's political action club, met with Congressman Hall on February 5th to discuss their project to install a 28.68kW roof-mounted photovoltaic system (solar array) to power some of the school including the Marine Biology lab/classroom and aquaria, a large science room, and an AP Biology lab/classroom. The solar panels will help protect marine life from power outages and to promote community awareness of renewable energy. The district received \$140,000 for the project from NYSERDA, but still needed about \$100,000, which the students asked Congressman Hall to help them obtain. Congressman Hall then requested funding from the Dyson Foundation.

"The Arlington High Club ACTION students should be an example to us all," said Congressman Hall, who is a member of the House of Representatives Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming and a long-time advocate of renewable energy. "When I met with them I saw first hand how young people can take control of the earth's future by helping protect the environment. This is a great local example of how we can all work together toward a comprehensive national energy independence policy."

Construction for the school's new wing is scheduled to begin this summer.

"This project will show others in Dutchess County and beyond how important it is to 'Go Green' and it will provide very important teaching and learning opportunities as well," said Dyson Foundation President Robert R. Dyson.